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## From Punta Gorda, Florida.

The end of our last letter left us safely landed here. We were very fortunate in obtaining rooms at once, and have a very pleasant location, no other strangers in the house, and everything comfortable. We can see the Gulf from our front porch, and there is always the most invigorating breeze going. One's appetite becomes perfectly ravenous.

And, of course, speaking of appetites, what there is to eat comes next. One does not need much meat in this summer climate, and the only meat to use is the Western, which is not always obtainable and never extra good. The chickens do not look good to us who are used to real Darke county chickens. Their surroundings are not calculated to create hunger. But the fresh fish are about the best things going. Mackerel right off the boat are only 7c a pound, and all others only 5c. You ask for twenty cents' worth of fish and you can get three, two, or all in one big one. They are not weighed, and we got one that was two feet long. A pound and a half mullet would cost 5c for the fish.

Potatoes are shipped in; sweet potatoes grow all the year; radishes, a couple of dozen for 5c; lettuce at the fields, enough for four people for 5c. Most fresh vegetables are quite reasonable in price. Canned goods sell at from five to ten cents higher than at home. Butter, creamery only, is 40c, same price for eggs. Breakfast bacon is only 40c per pound.

Everybody eats oranges and grape fruit at all hours. The pineapple plantations show very fine specimens. You can get plenty of them weighing six or eight pounds; they sell by the pound and are not expensive.

This place has about fifteen hundred people, with quite a colored population. It spreads over lots of ground and much ground is yet in the wild state. We, personally, have absolutely no cause for complaint, but woe to the stranger who is gullible enough to listen to their talk of land values, the big money to be made in orange groves, pineapple plantations, etc. We have been over miles of all kinds of country, have interviewed people, and you get hold of one who is discouraged—and there are many such—and speaking in perfect honesty and truth, I would not trade 160 acres of real Ohio land for the whole state of Florida and have to live and make a living thereby. One gets varied impressions on coming here.

The climate is certainly all that one could desire, but in summer I think life would be a hand-to-hand battle against mosquitos. All beds have a huge net canopy to be let down in summer. Doors and windows are screened also.

The people impress you as very friendly and sociable, especially

tourists. The first question after exchanging names is "Where are you from?" About half of them here answer, "From Ohio." Then we shake hands and compare Ohio with Florida, to the glory of the former, of course.

About the first question a native of the state will ask is, "Have you come to invest?" They do not more than want the weight of the land in gold! We went about two miles from town the other day to visit at a villa on the bay shore, called "The Palms." Next to it is a two-acre tract not cleared and no buildings, for sale at only \$1600. And it would cost at least two hundred to clear. Then, till the necessary planting and building were done, it would be a costly investment. And this is the story everywhere.

There are several stores and groceries here and their combined sales would not exceed those of Jefferis Bros. at home in a week. There is no country trade. Poor souls, they have a hard time keeping body and soul together, and what little they ever ship away is absorbed mostly by freight or commission men.

All industries have to pay a license to operate. People from the country cannot sell even a radish in town unless they pay for the privilege. It costs the moving picture show just \$300 to give performances; the storekeeper, the barber, liveryman, shoe-mender and all others have to pay and pay well, too.

One man came into town to sell a little garden stuff and they confiscated his horse and wagon—all he had. They will take a carpenter's tools, the same. A man who gets a job of grubbing must pay \$15 for the privilege of doing it. And grubbing is no summer picnic here. Men who work in the fields wear heavy leather shoes to the knees. You can guess why.

I do not seek to give the impression that nothing is raised here. There are many kinds of vegetables raised, there are the various fruits, and these are good, but the product is so small compared with the things not produced, and needed, that we wonder how people contrive to live, as they raise no vegetables in summer. The rains are too abundant and followed by the hot sun, everything is simply scorched. If it were not for the tourist element and the money they pay for living and other expenses, living would indeed be a serious problem here.

If you ever see and talk with some poor heartsick, despairing Northern man, who has been lured into coming South by the highly-colored, glittering circulars so freely sent out, as we have, you would see why the truth needs to be put plainly before the public.

With many warm thoughts for all Darke county friends.

MRS. L. A. WILSON.

Try the Journal a year, or one of our clubbing offers.

## How the Tariff is Working.

Last week the American Railway Association reported that on January 15 there were 217,214 idle freight cars, as compared with 53,170 on the corresponding date of last year—an increase of 164,044. Since January 1 of this year, up to January 15, the number of idle cars increased 26,693.

While the Findlay sugar factory has not been ordered shut down, the factory at Fremont has been and several others in different parts of the country have been so crippled by the operation by the new Democratic tariff as to be compelled to announce that they will not be operated next year. The announcement has also been made of a material reduction in the price to be paid for beets next year in consequence of the reduction of the tariff on sugar, making it impossible for the factories in the United States to compete with those in foreign countries, where labor and operating costs are so much less expensive. The sugar factory is one of Findlay's most important industries and represents a larger investment than any other industrial plant in the city.—Findlay (O.) Republican.

A Marion county farmer, one of the well-to-do farmers we are always pleased to boast, went to a Columbus tailor the other day to order an overcoat, and the price of a made-up garment from the cloth he selected was \$80. "Great Scott," said the Marion county farmer—or words to that effect—"I sold my wool clip last summer for twelve hundred dollars less than in 1912, and in 1912 I sold it fully that much less than in 1911, and I naturally expect a cheaper coat." The merchant tailor smiled patronizingly, assured the Marion county farmer that wool cloths were no cheaper, certainly not sufficiently cheaper to make a change in the cost of the garment, and in the end the overcoat was ordered at the 1911-1912 price. The farmer meanwhile, though getting no better coat, is short on two seasons' wool clip about \$2,500, because wool began dropping from the day the Republican defeat threatened and experienced a declining market from the day ex-President Taft's defeat was a foregone conclusion. The Star encountered this farmer, who knows the wool business pretty thoroughly. He says Marion county farmers sold their 1913 clip at nineteen to twenty-two cents per pound. The same farmers sold their 1912 clip at twenty-five to twenty-seven cents, and, as previously stated, wool began dropping in 1912 as soon as a Democratic victory looked probable. In 1914, our farmer friend tells us, the same farmers will sell their clip at fifteen or sixteen cents.—Marion (O.) Star.

American farmers are beginning to see where the tariff shoe pinches. The importation of Argentine corn will have the effect of materially reducing the price to the American producer, but the consumer will pay the same old price. The farmer gets less for his wool and mutton, but pays the same for his clothes and groceries. Low tariff sounds good as a theory but it has always proved disastrous in practice.—Findlay (O.) Republican.

Here are a few facts from a remarkable article by William Hard, entitled "Better Business," in Everybody's Magazine. Carcasses of "Han Yang" pig iron and "Tata" pig iron were laid down in San Francisco this year, from Asia, even against a duty of \$2.50 a ton. The "Han Yang" brand came from a Chinese works,

"It's the worst year since Cleveland," said Max Weisewelt of the Greater New York Employment Agency, last night, "even worse than the winter of the panic. We can't place anybody. Business has been slow all summer, but has stopped absolutely in the last three weeks. And the men want work: they don't want money without it. Most of them are straight and proud, and only want a chance to show what they can do."—New York Tribune, Jan. 23.

The Earl of Kintore—an observant and intelligent Britisher now on a visit to the United States—says that our new tariff has "brought opportunities to England which she will not be slow to use."

It was learned in several quarters of the market (wholesale dress goods) that no great amount of orders for the goods had been placed so far. Concerning the selling outlook for the coming season, the local representative of several large Eastern mills said that none of the corporations would make any money during the first six months of the present year until the domestic mills could adjust themselves to the lower tariff.—New York Times.

Wool was put on the free list, and the rates on cloth greatly reduced. An expectant world stands ready to reap the promised reward. \* \* \* So far as the American-buying public is concerned it is as if no change had occurred. Over the counter passes the same amount of money in exchange for a suit of clothes. The customer has gained nothing. There have been losses, though. The wool grower has lost and the manufacturer as well. The United States has lost millions of dollars of needed revenue. The only ones to gain in Schedule K are the middlemen and the manufacturer who owes allegiance to a foreign flag.—Philadelphia Press.

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which employs twenty thousand men, near Hankow on the Yangste River. The "Tata" brand came from works in India, new, modern, the first one of its kind in that country, in the basin of the Ganges, near Calcutta. Further importations of both brands are in prospect. And these further importations will be cheaper than the last ones. They will not pay a duty of \$2.50 a ton. On the contrary, under the new tariff bill, "Han Yang" and "Tata" pig iron will be "dumped" on the docks at San Francisco entirely duty free. More than 1,250,000 tons of iron ore came in to this country from Cuba, paying a duty of twelve cents a ton. The Underwood tariff bill transferred iron ore to the free list. There is a conical mountain in Chili which is virtually solid ore of an almost luxurious richness, and this mountain is so close to the sea that you could trolley a bucket of ore on a wire from its summit to the hold of a ship; and you can carry a ton of ore a thousand miles on the ocean as economically as you can carry it a hundred miles on land. Charles M. Schwab's new fleet of ten vessels will go all the way to Coquimbo to fetch ore for his blast furnaces at Bethlehem, Pa. Query: What about the Minnesota and Michigan ore mines and miners?

## Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

### How to Prevent the Tobacco Splitworm.

Washington, D. C. — Transplant the tobacco crop as early as possible in order to mature it before the appearance of the most destructive generation of the tobacco splitworm, advises bulletin No. 59 of the Department of Agriculture, in making recommendation for the control of this worm. When the early infection is very severe, prime off and destroy the infected leaves; destroy all tobacco stubble as soon as the crop is harvested to prevent the breeding of a hibernating generation; clean up and destroy all trash in and around fields and tobacco barns; do not follow potatoes by tobacco if the infection of tobacco has been more severe in such cases than where different rotation was followed; grow potatoes as far as possible from tobacco fields.

In Cuba and the United States the splitworm is known on tobacco as a leaf-miner only. Only the older tobacco leaves are affected unless the infection is very severe; and in these, the lower leaves, grayish, irregular blotches are produced, which later turn brown and become fragile so that the tobacco is unfit for wrappers. At Clarksville, Tennessee, where the infection is very slight, the larva in most cases begins work in the "ruffles" along the midrib and they afterward migrate and form mines in various parts of the leaf.

## FOR THE CHILDREN

### The Game of Artists.

A girl and a boy are chosen as captives, and they choose alternately from the company until all are divided into two parties under the respective captives. Then the girl sends one of her party so that he must face the members of the opposition, who then address remarks to him, each in the character of an artist. To every remark the answer is, "Twice I," except when an artist's name is mentioned. Then he must say, "Indeed!" For instance, the head of the opposition might say, "I painted the picture of a donkey." "Twice I." "He was eating thistles." "Twice I." "Rosa Bonheur furnished the copy." "Indeed!" should be the answer to this. Then the next member of the opposition takes up the observations. "Chase has a new model." "Indeed!" "I got him for Chase from Sing Sing." "Indeed!" "He was in jail for bigamy." "Twice I." No matter how much the other guests may laugh while playing this game, the victim must keep quite serious. If he laughs or if he fails to make the proper response he is obliged to take his seat with the opposite side, and the captain who chose him loses one member of her company. The idea is to see which leader will have the larger party at the end of the time fixed upon as the duration of the game. The sides take turns in teasing the victim sent from the opposite side. Each member of the opposite party is expected to make three remarks to him, the first always referring to a picture. If he fails in this he is promptly called to sit on the opposite side.

### The Oak Tree.

The oak is one of the largest, handsomest trees, often living to a great age and easily holding its place as "monarch of the forest." The historic oak at Salem, N. J., and the Blenheim oak at Derby, Pa., can each lay claim to between 200 and 300 years of age. Sometimes these trees live for centuries longer. We have different kinds of oaks. Some of the best known are the white, scarlet, pin, live, chestnut oak, black and hick. Their leaves vary in shape, but all are wavy edged. When these are about half grown the tiny red and yellow blossoms appear, growing in little clusters the whole length of the long, drooping stems. The oaks are the only trees bearing seeds called acorns. Each nut is in a cup of shell, which protects it. The bur oak bears acorns having a pretty fringe of scales, which has given them the name of mossy cup acorns.

### Conundrums.

Why is a selfish friend like the letter "Z"? It is the first in pity and the last in help. What is that which every one wishes for and yet tries to get rid of? A good appetite. What kind of sweetmeats did they have in the ark? Preserved pears (parads). Why are potatoes and corn like certain miners of old? Because, having eyes, they see not, and ears, they hear not. Why is wit like a Chinese lady's foot? Because brevity is the sole of it. When are the streets of a town most greasy? When the rain is dripping. What is that which Adam never saw, never possessed, and yet he gave two to his children? Parents.

### Story of a Proud Cat.

One day there lived a very proud cat whose name was Kitty. She had soft, black and glossy fur, with a blue ribbon round her neck. The house in which she lived was a big, beautiful building. Opposite her lived a poor dog named Toby, who, being unused to the luxuries of Kitty, did not know what it was to be proud. At this time there was a certain law between dogs and cats. This law was that when you are pleased you must wag your tail, but when you are angry you must keep it stiff. Kitty, thinking that as she was so rich it was unfair to make her do even one thing the same as such a poor creature as Toby, broke this law and did just the opposite. She was, of course, punished; and since then cats wag their tails when they are angry instead of when they are pleased.

### Blowing Out the Candle.

Blowing out the candle is an amusing party game. A lighted candle is placed on a table. Each person in turn is blindfolded, told to take two steps forward, turn around and blow it out. This always causes much amusement, as the one blindfolded is very apt to find himself blowing at the wall.

### The King of All Laxatives.

For constipation, use Dr. King's New Life Pills. Paul Mathulka, of Buffalo, N. Y., says they are the "king of all laxatives. They are a blessing to all my family and I always keep a box at home." Get a box and get well again. Price 25c. At druggists or by mail, H. E. Bucklen & Co., Philadelphia or St. Louis.

## IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Irish Mahon, Newark Boxer, Regarded Corner.



Photo by American Press Association.

Irish Mahon of Newark, N. J., is one of the most promising of the crop of featherweights. He has met and defeated some of the best and is in great demand.

Mahon is hot on the trail of Johnny Kilbane. It is likely that the pair will be matched in the near future.

### Baker's New Record.

More honors have been discovered for J. Franklin Baker, who has made himself so extremely obnoxious to major league pitchers since he moved from Reading, Pa., to Philadelphia early in September, 1908. It develops that J. Franklin is the only athlete who has been for three seasons a member of the World's Series Society of Three Hundred Hitters. The man who put Trappe, Md., on the baseball map also is the only player who has annually hit harder in the baseball classic than he has in the regular season. Chief Meyers of the Giants had a chance to secure the same honor as Baker possesses, of being a 300 hitter in three world's series, until his hand was damaged prior to the start of the second game for the championship of the world. McGraw's Indian batted 300 in the contests with the Athletics in 1911 and 1912 in the games with the Red Sox in 1912. His percentage in the one game he played in 1913 was underneath the charmed figure.

### Journey New U. of P. Captain.

Louis A. Young, who was re-elected captain of the University of Pennsylvania football team, resigned the captaincy and Albert Journey was elected in his place. Young will be graduated next June, but expected to return to the university for a postgraduate course. On the strength of this expectation he was again chosen captain, but he has since found that he will not be able to return for the extra year of study. Journey, the new captain, played right guard on the team this year. He is twenty-three years old, and his home is at Leominster, N. J.

### Joe Tinker a White Hope.

Employees around the Chicago Tribune building tipped it off that if Joe Tinker doesn't want to play with Brooklyn he can earn his three square meals by cleaning the mop of the present crop of white hopes. A night watchman who didn't know Tinker tried to halt his march to the sporting editor's sanctum. Three other employees jumped in. In a round battle lasting five minutes Tinker spilled the quartet about the floor, arriving at the sport department with only a slight bruise on his face.

### Harvard's Baseball Dates.

Twenty-nine games have been scheduled for the Harvard baseball team for the coming season. Of these two each will be played with Georgetown, Holy Cross, Brown, Pennsylvania and Yale. The Yale games are scheduled for June 16 and 17, the first to be played at New Haven and the second at Cambridge, while a third game will be played at New York on the 20th in case of a tie. The team will make one trip south, leaving for West Point on April 21 and returning to Cambridge April 26.

### Fifteen Baseball Fatalities.

Fifteen deaths constituted the toll in baseball games during the 1913 season. The report shows that the greatest death toll was in Chicago, where three persons were killed by pitched balls. Twelve of the victims were killed by being hit in the head by the ball directed from the hands of the pitcher. Four tips were responsible for the other three deaths. The report points out that all of the players killed were unskilled in the game and that none was major league players.

### Rowing at Cornell.

The Cornell crew boathouse was not closed this fall, but will remain open all winter. The boat will be left in place so that if a warm spell comes during the winter the men will be able to practice on the water.